

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, further comprising: A method for developing a sub-sea hydrocarbons field, comprising:~~

liquefying natural gas aboard a vessel using a liquid coolant aboard the vessel to obtain liquefied natural gas;

transporting the liquefied natural gas to an onshore terminal;

re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas;

obtaining a new batch of liquid coolant using energy recovered from the re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas;

de-gasifying hydrocarbons obtained from the sub-sea hydrocarbons field to produce oil and gas; and

conveying the produced gas to the vessel and the produced oil to the a storage tank on a seabed.

4. (Original) The method of Claim ~~43~~, wherein the produced gas is conveyed to the vessel via a riser.

5. (Original) The method of Claim ~~43~~, further comprising:
pre-treating the produced gas before liquefying.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
storing the oil in a storage tank attached to a seabed.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~43~~, further comprising:
liquefying a new batch of natural gas using the new batch of liquid nitrogen aboard the vessel.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4~~3~~, wherein one of a plurality of storage tanks aboard the vessel ~~storage tanks~~ is empty to receive an initial portion of the liquefied natural gas.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4~~3~~, wherein the re-gasifying the liquid natural gas is performed at the onshore terminal.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4~~3~~, wherein re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas produces high pressure gas.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising:
sending the high pressure gas to a pipeline.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4~~3~~, wherein transporting the liquefied natural gas to the onshore terminal is performed using the vessel.
13. (Currently Amended) A system for developing an oil and gas field, comprising:
a vessel configured to liquefy natural gas to obtain liquefied natural gas using liquid nitrogen aboard the vessel; and
an onshore terminal configured to obtain a new batch of liquid nitrogen using refrigeration recovered from re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas; and
a sub-sea separation system configured to de-gasify hydrocarbons to produce oil and gas.
14. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 13, further comprising:
~~a sub-sea separation system configured to de-gasify hydrocarbons to produce oil and gas;~~
and
a natural gas conveyance system configured to use a riser to convey the gas produced from the sub-sea separation system to the vessel; and
convey the oil produced from the sub-sea separation system to a sub~~0~~-sea sub-sea storage tank.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 14, further comprising:
a natural gas pre-treating facility configured to treat the produced gas.
16. (Original) The system of Claim 14, further comprising:
a power and control buoy configured to provide electric power and control functions for
the sub-sea separation system.
17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for developing a sub-sea hydrocarbons field,
comprising:
means for liquefying natural gas aboard a vessel using liquid nitrogen aboard the
vessel to obtain liquefied natural gas;
means for transporting the liquefied natural gas to an onshore terminal;
means for re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas;
means for obtaining a new batch of liquid coolant using energy recovered from the re-
gasifying the liquefied natural gas, wherein the liquid coolant comprises liquid
nitrogen;
a means for de-gasifying hydrocarbons obtained from the sub-sea hydrocarbons field to
produce oil and gas; and
a means for conveying the produced gas to the vessel and the produced oil to a storage
tank on the seabed.
18. (New) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
transporting a new batch of liquid coolant offshore aboard the vessel using a plurality of
storage tanks; wherein the new batch of liquid coolant comprises liquid nitrogen.